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ABSTRACT

This guide, prepared to assist students who have postural and other remedial defects, is divided into four sections. Section one outlines the organization and administration of a remedial physical education program and gives information concerning the administration of alignment tests and corrections. Section two discusses anteroposterior deviations of the cervical region and illustrates 11 basic corrective exercises. Section three describes deviations of the dorsal and lumbar regions of the spine and gives some common causes for these defects. Thirteen corrective exercises are illustrated. Section four discusses the deviations of the legs and feet and illustrates 10 exercises. Eight points to remember are presented. A glossary of related terms and a two-page bibliography are included. (PD)

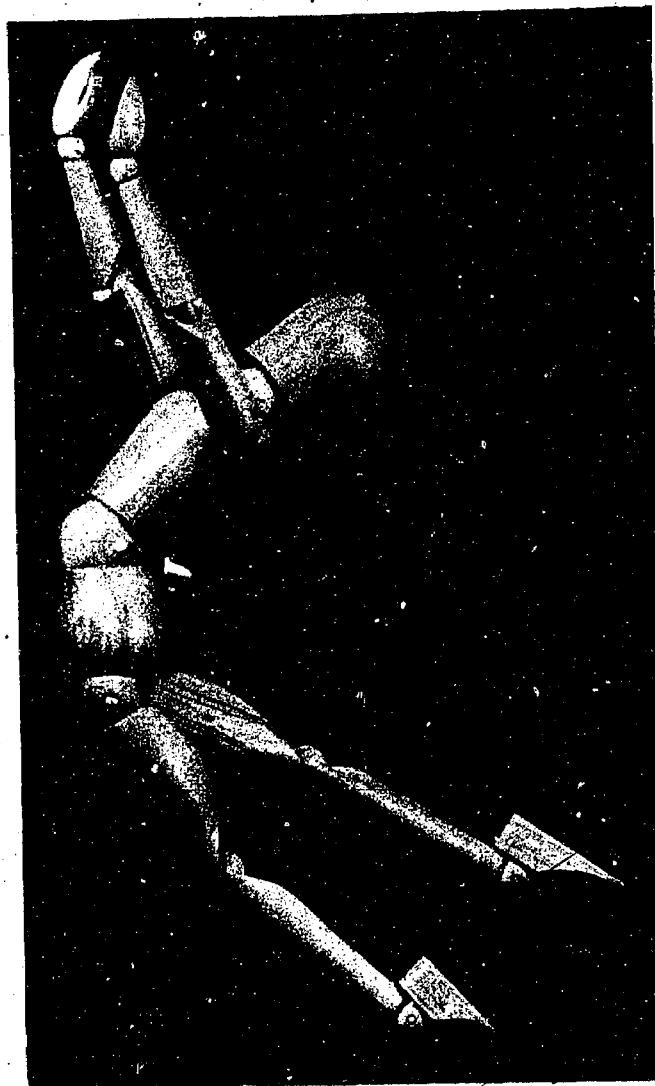
ED 092564

# CORRECTIVE PHYSICAL EDUCATION

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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH,  
EDUCATION & WELFARE  
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WILMINGTON PUBLIC SCHOOLS  
WILMINGTON, DELAWARE  
1963

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All of the above served as consultants, giving generously of their professional experience.

(Please Note: The original (1963) edition of the guide was developed under the direction of Dr. John H. Jenny, resigned. The revised edition was developed under the supervision of Mr. William H. Griswold.)

## FOREWORD

It is the duty of the public school to serve the community that supports it in any way possible. All too often the school's function is seen as only that of teaching the basic subjects . . . imparting knowledge on a regular basis from nine to three each day.

The public school cannot limit itself only to a student's intellectual growth if it is to do its job well. The school must be concerned with growth in all areas.

The Wilmington Public School System maintains a full-time supervisory staff which is constantly seeking ways to help teachers improve their programs and thus make growth meaningful.

This guide for use by our professional staff personnel in the schools is an excellent example of the range of services the Wilmington Public School System provides for the community.

At present we are not able to offer a city-wide program of remedial physical education but this manual is proof that we are aware of the needs of certain of our students and have moved to satisfy those needs.

The Wilmington Public School System is vitally interested in serving the community and will continue to do all that it can to insure that community needs are identified and steps taken to find solutions for them.

-- Gene A. Geisert  
Superintendent of Schools  
September 23, 1968

## INTRODUCTION

It is recognized that the implementation of a city-wide remedial program in physical education will not be immediately attainable. It is also recognized that the physical education personnel cannot afford to mark time until such a city-wide program is implemented. In order to attempt to partially satisfy the present needs of our students who have need of corrective and remedial physical education work, this guide has been prepared. It is for use of the physical education staff who have had previous technical training either at the college level or through workshops conducted by the Department. It is not for use by classroom teachers or for use by physical education teachers who have neither the background nor the inclination to do "corrective" work.

This guide and manual has been prepared so that students with postural and other remedial defects may be assisted in realizing the most from their physical potentials. It is recognized that the regular physical education with its limited time allotment cannot do the job of skill development, safety education, health education and corrective activities. Some additional time must be found for those children with remedial defects, to benefit from the leadership of the schools. This guide is the first step in several which will assist the personnel of the Department of Health, Physical, and Safety Education to provide additional services for our school population. It is not for use in the regularly scheduled Physical Education Classes, but for special use in those schools where principals and teachers have arranged classes for students referred to the schools for postural exercises.

William H. Griswold  
Supervisor  
Health, Safety, Physical Education  
and Athletics

## PREFACE

This compilation of exercises in remedial education has been prepared to serve as a reference and guide for teachers working with pupils having postural defects. No attempt has been made to prepare an exhaustive list of the numerous corrective exercises.

Those described have been selected either because of their directed effect on the "over" or "under" toned muscle, or because of skeletal alignment.

The hope is that the attainment of aligned physical balance, the requisite of good posture with the self-discipline used to attain it, will be developed and will lead to greater mental poise and emotional stability. It is believed that knowledge of excellence in appearance through personal effort will have lasting carry-over value.

More complex exercises involving equipment of great variety may eventually be used as a follow-up for corrective activities.

Mary McCloskey

Howard Wise

} Co-Chairmen

**CORRECTIVE EXERCISES**  
**FOR**  
**POSTURAL DEVIATIONS**  
**ADAPTIVE PHYSICAL EDUCATION**

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**SECTION ONE**  
**ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF REMEDIAL PROGRAM**

## A SUGGESTED PROCEDURE FOR THE ORGANIZATION AND ADMINISTRATION OF THE ADAPTIVE (REMEDIAL) PHYSICAL EDUCATION PROGRAM WITHIN A SCHOOL.

All instructors should follow a prescribed training guide which outlines the course of instruction.

The guide should describe the exercises in detail.

As the program increases in scope newer methods of instruction and additional exercises should be evaluated.

### ORGANIZATION

Good public relations with:

- Principal and other administrators

Plan the program cooperatively.

Keep the principal informed of progress made.

- School medical services –

Work together to strengthen the program through mutual understanding.

Visit the infirmary frequently to discuss particular cases.

- The school staff –

Present the details of the remedial program to staff members at a faculty meeting.

Secure the cooperation of the faculty members in the follow-up of remedial cases by :

Preparing a list of the enrolled pupils for each advisor.

Recording the nature of the deviations on the permanent record with a note concerning pupil's progress.

Posting a list of pupils enrolled on bulletin board in faculty room, interesting the faculty in being "posture conscious".

- Community –

Conduct a program for the P.T.A.

Submit articles for the newspaper.

Contact parents and physicians.

Encourage parents to observe classes.

Essential qualifications of Corrective teacher:

- Exhibit sincere interest and enthusiasm for this highly specialized work
- Previous training in corrective therapy
- Informed of current literature
- Ability to devise new remedial exercises or equipment

Remedial physical education room:

- Size – at least as large as regular classroom.
- Location – accessible to gymnasium.
- Lighting and Ventilation – should meet school requirements and regulations.
- Basic Equipment
  - Three-way posture mirror
  - Plumb line suspended from wall bracket
  - Stall bars

### Basic Equipment (continued)

Sufficient number of benches or stools to accommodate a class of approximately ten students

Table or plinth

Small mats

Wands

### Selection of pupils for classes:

- Pupils selected from the referrals of school physicians.
- Pupil referred to teacher by school nurse or gym teacher.
- Faculty members, parents and physicians may request that a pupil be assigned to the program. The teacher will make an appointment through the school nurse to examine the pupil and complete the necessary referral form.

### ADMINISTRATION

#### Initial pupil-teacher conference

- This conference should be used for indoctrinating pupils:
  - Introduce him to the program
  - Establish right attitudes
  - Acquaint each pupil with his deviation(s)
  - Explain the importance of regular practice periods at school and at home
  - Impress on him the importance of performing the exercises slowly, vigorously, actively
- Give pupil a letter for parental consent and one for the family doctor for the proper signature.
- Inspect the pupil's roster and tell him when to report for classes.
- Provide time for the pupil to inspect the remedial gym.

#### Scheduling to the remedial classes

- Pupils should be scheduled for daily classes until marked improvement is shown
  - The ideal is to have these classes scheduled in addition to regular physical education classes.
  - Although daily classes may be lessened, the work should be continued until "correction" is accomplished or further improvement is declared impossible. The decision should be made by the school doctor.
  - The pupil should not be scheduled from the same subject more than one period per week and never scheduled from a one or two period subject.
  - Schedule approximately ten pupils for each class.

#### Evaluation of pupil progress

- Each pupil will be re-examined by school doctor at mid and end of term.
- School physicians will re-examine pupils at irregular times upon teacher's request.
- Evaluation of pupil's progress will be retained by teacher and recorded on pupil's medical report in infirmary.
- A continuous report should be made by teacher and pupil.
- An evaluation should be made on pupil's posture at home.

## The Conference Period

- The purpose of the conference is to further the program in general and to insure progress by individual pupils.

A few suggestions follows:

As a definite time for indoctrinating pupils

As a parent-teacher-pupil conference

As a teacher-nurse-doctor conference.

As a follow-up period for those pupils who have been dismissed from classes as improved or corrected

Planning demonstrations or programs, or doing work essential to the program

- The conference period should be held in the remedial room.

Suggestions for conducting the first few class periods:

### • FIRST CLASS PERIOD

Take posture photographs (if possible)

Take pedographs and explain them

Test alignment of all pupils with plumb line

Explain the functioning of the individualized program

The parent letter must be returned before exercises are taught

### • SECOND CLASS PERIOD

Administer tests for muscle length and strength

Record finding on planned form and later transfer to a wall chart

Discuss with each pupil his strengths and weaknesses

Motivate him to want to better his own record

Check body alignment before the triple posture mirror

### • THIRD CLASS PERIOD

Check postures before mirror. Correct positions with manual assistance

Teach approximately two exercises for each deviation in the class. Designate which pupils will practice each particular exercise

Observe each pupil as he performs his specific exercise(s).

Make corrections. Tell him how many repetitions are expected of him and when to increase the number of repetitions.

Organize classes so that each pupil can assist each other

### • FOURTH CLASS PERIOD.

Give 3 or 4 warm-up exercises to entire class, or a simple warm-up game

Each pupil must be supervised in his practice and corrections made. Always note any improvement.

Teach an additional exercise to those pupils who are ready for it

## In-Service training

- Formal courses provided by Board of Education
- Observations
- Meetings
- Demonstrations
- Visits to orthopedic clinics

## Visual education

- Posters
- Films
- Pamphlets

Bibliography (refer to guide)

## INFORMATION CONCERNING THE ADMINISTRATION OF ALIGNMENT TESTS AND CORRECTIONS

The skeleton of the human being is composed of segments, which, when in proper balance and relationship with each other, will permit the individual to perform his activities with least strain on the joints and ligaments. These skeletal segments consist of the head, neck, shoulder girdle, thorax, lumbar spine, pelvis, upper extremities, and lower extremities.

Good alignment of these segments is attained when the individual, as a whole, is in balance. The evaluation of postural faults must be made in comparison with a standard, and since posture is mainly a matter of alignment, the standard used is that of skeletal alignment.

The following tests and corrections have proved to be helpful in determining the anteposterior and lateral deviations which are present in those taking individual remedial physical education. Since there are normal differences in body structure, one should not expect every individual to conform, exactly to a set standard. Accordingly, a slight variation should be considered normal. The teacher will find that the three-way mirror and the grid are valuable aids in pointing out the existing deviations and in showing the pupil how he can assume a well-balanced position.

### THE PLUMB LINE TEST

Observing the pupil from the side for anteposterior deviations, the plumb line should fall:

- Slightly anterior to the lateral malleolus.
- Slightly anterior to the midline through the knee.
- Approximately through the greater trochanter of the femur.
- Approximately midway between the back and the abdomen.
- Approximately midway between the front and back of the chest.
- Through the shoulder joint. (scapulohumeral articulation).
- Through the ear lobe. (mastoid).

To judge the position accurately, a straight line should be drawn on the floor and the plumb bob suspended directly above it. A small mark should be placed on the foot just anterior to the lateral malleolus. Since the feet are the only stationary part of the body while in the erect position, they must be placed in the correct position before the plumb line test is administered.

Observing the pupil from the back for lateral deviations, the plumb line should fall:

- Midway between the heels.
- Coincide with the gluteal fold.
- Coincide with the spinal column, if it is straight.
- Coincide with the midline of the head.

The pupil should stand with the foot parallel and a few inches apart, with the inner borders of the feet equidistant from a straight line and the plumb bob suspended directly over it.

Observing the pupil from the front for lateral deviations, the plumb line should fall:

- Midway between the feet.
- Coincide with the symphysic pubis
- Coincide with the sternum.
- Coincide with the midline of the head.

The positions of the pupil, the plumb bob, and the line drawn on the floor are the same as for observing the pupil from the back for lateral deviations.

- The other tests and techniques are used primarily for motivating purposes. However, the Back Wall Test is widely used in assisting the pupil to decrease the exaggerated lumbar curve.

### MANUAL CORRECTION

- If the abdomen is prominent and the shoulders and chest of the pupil are swayed backward, place one hand on his abdomen and the other on his shoulder blades and push gently with both hands until his trunk is aligned better.
- If his hips are too far forward (anterior pelvic tilt) and his lower back too hollow (lordosis) place one hand on his abdomen and the other on his buttocks, pushing down on his buttocks and upward on his abdomen. Be sure that his knees are not bent.
- If his head is too far forward, place one hand on his abdomen and slide the other arm up the pupil's back so that the palm is behind the head. Ask him to move his head backward until it touches the palm of the hand without tipping his chin upward. The chin should be drawn in.

### DOUBLE POLE TEST

- Use two poles, yardsticks or wands. The teacher or assistant holds one pole against the pupil's spine so that the upper end is slightly above level of his neck. Place the other pole along his sternum and center of abdomen with the upper end below the level of his chin. In good posture the poles usually slant forward at the bottom, with his head and chin jutting forward over the top of the front pole. (Upon sliding the front pole upward, it should not touch the nose.)

### BACK WALL TEST

- The student stands with his heels two to four inches from the wall, with his buttocks, shoulders and head against the wall. He then slides his hand in the space between the wall and the lumbar spine. The fit is usually quite loose. In an attempt to make it fit more snug he tries to press the lower back against the hand. In doing this he automatically corrects his posture — i.e., he draws in his abdomen, lifts the chest and assumes a better body position. He would attempt to bring his heels to the wall while maintaining the corrected position.
- Then, bringing his body weight away from the wall to a position over the center of his feet, he should walk away in a good alignment.

### FRONT WALL TEST

- The student faces the wall and touches his toes against it.
- In good posture the chest touches the wall, but the nose is about an inch from it. To prevent a drawing back of the hips, the hands are placed on

the front of the thighs, and a depth of the hand, only, must be maintained between the thighs and the wall. To assume this correct position demands the alignment of the body in a correct position.

**WHEN ONE SEGMENT OF THE BODY IS OUT OF ALIGNMENT ANOTHER SEGMENT MUST COMPENSATE FOR THAT DEVIATION TO MAINTAIN A BALANCED POSITION.**

Correct alignment of the entire body is necessary.

See Figures Below:

Head over  
Trunk and  
Centered  
Between  
Shoulders

Shoulders  
Over Pelvis

Pelvis  
Over Knees

Knees  
Over  
Ankles



Shoulders  
Level

Hips  
Level

Chest  
Elevated

Abdomen  
Flat



Crown of  
Head  
Extended

Shoulders  
Easy

Pelvic at  
Forward Tilt

Palms  
Toward Body

Knees "Easy"

Front View

Profile Sketch

Each segment of the body is balanced over the segment below. The balanced posture is maintained habitually in the static position and while the body is in movement.



**SECTION TWO**  
**ANTEROPOSTERIOR DEVIATIONS OF THE CERVICAL REGION OF THE SPINE**  
**AND BASIC EXERCISES FOR CORRECTION**

## ANTEROPOSTERIOR DEVIATIONS OF THE CERVICAL REGION OF THE SPINE, AND BASIC EXERCISES FOR CORRECTION

A brief description and common causes of postural defects in the cervical region. The cervical region of the spine affords a greater freedom of movement than either the thoracic or lumbar due to the unique structure of the seven delicate vertebrae.

One of the most common anteroposterior deviations of the spine is that of the forward head and neck. Although gravity has a slight tendency to draw the head forward, the posterior extensor muscles of the upper thoracic spine counteract that forward movement if they are of sufficient strength. When the thoracic region of the body is in the correct position, the head is more easily balanced.

Undue fatigue, and weakening or shortening of the neck muscles are among the causes of a forward position of the head and neck. In such a case, the chin is usually tilted upward in an effort to compensate for the strain on the extensor muscles of the thoracic region.

Causes of general faulty posture and body mechanics which may affect the cervical region of

- Impaired vision and hearing
- Poor nutrition and fatigue
- Congenital defects
- Defects resulting from injury or illness
- Psychological factors; e.g. inferiority, insecurity, embarrassment
- Muscular weakness
- Occupational factors

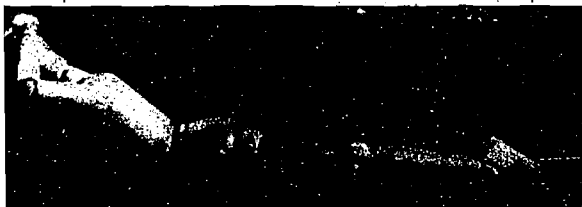
## REMEDIAL EXERCISES FOR DEVIATIONS OF THE CERVICAL REGION

### Objectives

- To remove the cause of forward head position
- To teach the correct position of the head and neck
- To strengthen the muscles of the posterior cervical region
- To encourage the pupil to want to maintain correct alignment

### Objectives

Same as Exercise I



### Objectives

Same as for Exercise I with the addition of correcting entire body alignment

### EXERCISE I

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Starting position: Correct sitting on a bench with the back against a wall, holding a book with both hands behind the head. The elbows and shoulders must be in contact with the wall, and remain there throughout the exercise.

Move the book forward, resisting this forward motion by contracting the posterior neck muscles and pressing the head backward as the chin is drawn in. The book should not move more than a slight distance from the wall. Relax. Repeat several times slowly.

#### Common Faults

- Tilting the chin upward and the head backward
- Providing too little resistance, i.e. too little muscular contraction in cervical region

### EXERCISE II

Starting position: Prone lying with hands on back of the head, elbows on floor. Raise the head, chest, and elbows 3 to 4 inches from the floor, keeping the chin drawn in. The performer does the exercise slowly, at the same time offering resistance by pulling downward on the head with the hands. Relax. Repeat several times.

#### Common Faults

- Tilting the head backward and the chin upward
- Exerting too little force on the back of the head

### EXERCISE III

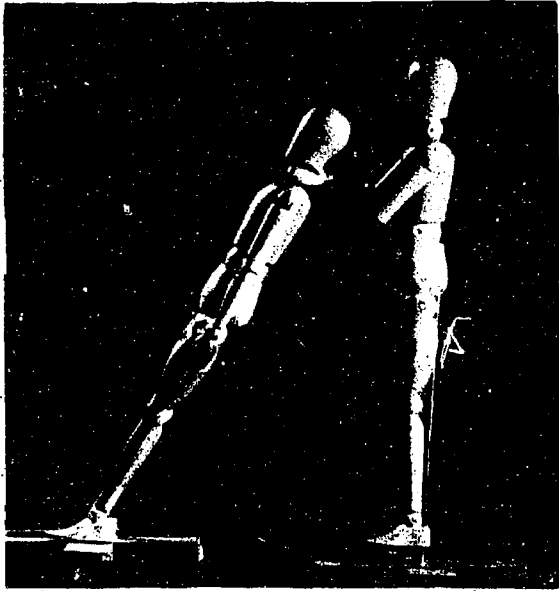
Starting position: Standing with back to wall, touching with buttocks, shoulders and back of head. Heels a few inches from wall. Raise chest, flatten lower back, pull in abdomen and press back of head against wall. Take a few steps from wall. Return. Repeat.

#### Common Faults

- Loss of body alignment on moving away from wall

**Objectives**

Same as for Exercise I

**Objectives**

To increase the suppleness  
of the shoulder girdle and  
the shoulder joint

**Objectives**

Same as for Exercise III

**EXERCISE IV**

A. Starting position: Standing. Assume correct body alignment. Instructor behind pupil. Places the hands at base of skull. Pupil keeps body rigid as he is lowered backward to 45 degree angle. Pupil maintains rigidity as he is raised to standing position.

B. The same corrective effect may be reached by standing back against wall with feet 18 to 24 inches away. Push body away from wall until only head is in contact.

**Common Faults**

- Chin and entire trunk not in good alignment
- Body sag

**EXERCISE V**

Starting position: The correct aligning position with arms raised forward shoulder high and shoulder-width apart. Turn the palms upward while flinging the arms sideward and backward vigorously in a horizontal plane - one, Return - two. Repeat rhythmically and vigorously several times.

**Note:** The exercise may be done in the standing position when the pupil can maintain the correct position.

**Common Faults**

- Thrusting the head forward
- Moving the arms below the horizontal plane
- Performing the exercise with insufficient vigor

**EXERCISE VI**

Starting position: The correct standing position; feet in a side stride stand with the straight arms raised overhead; hands grasping the outer ends of a wall which is held horizontally.

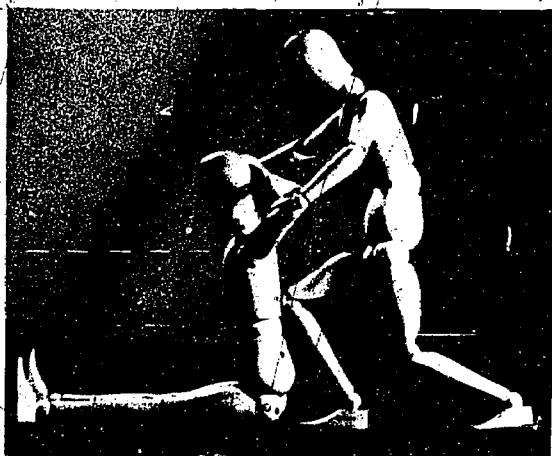
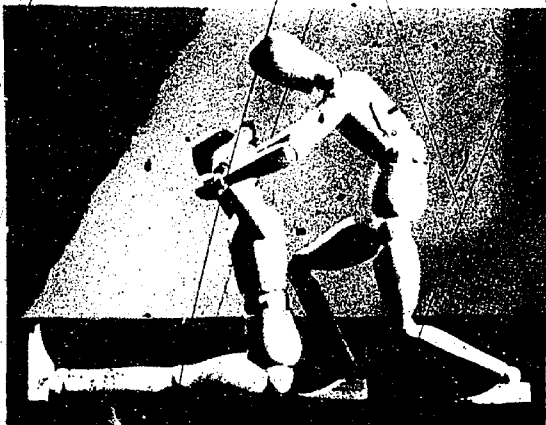
Lower and slowly downward behind the back to a position near the thighs. An attempt must be made to keep the wand horizontal and the arms as nearly straight as possible throughout the exercise. Repeat several times. Move the hands somewhat closer together as the pupil becomes more supple.

**Common Faults**

- Incorrect body alignment
- Working too rapidly

### Objectives

Same as for Exercise V  
Improve suppleness of  
shoulder girdle



### Objectives

Same as for Exercise III

### Objectives

Strengthening, stretching  
suppleness of shoulder  
girdle

## EXERCISE VII

Starting position: Correct sitting position on floor; head erect; hands behind neck. Teacher or assistant stands behind pupil, in a lunge position, with side of right leg, firmly giving support to lower back. Teacher places hands over elbows and grasps. Teacher slowly pulls pupil's elbows upward and backward as pupil assists by contracting the shoulder retractor muscles. Relax. Repeat slowly several times.

### Common Faults

- Tilting the head forward
- Assistant jerking arms backward
- Performing the exercise too fast
- Arching the lumbar spine
- Assistant forcing the arms too far in relation to the suppleness of the pupil's tissue flexibility

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## EXERCISE VIII

Starting position: Correct standing position with a book balanced on head.

Walk on level for one minute

Walk up and down stairs

Sit - stand from bench

Sit - stand from floor

### Common Faults

- Incorrect standing position
- Book slides from position

## EXERCISE IX

Stand facing a corner of the room with one hand on each wall, arms at shoulder level, palms forward, elbows bent and abdominal muscles contracted. (A) slowly let the upper part of the trunk lean forward and press the chest into the corner. Inhale as the body leans forward. (B) return to the original position by pushing out with the hand.

## EXERCISE X

Stand erect with the arms at the sides. In each hand hold a two pound weight. (A) Shrug the shoulders forward and upward (B) Relax. (C) Shrug the shoulders backward and upward (D) Relax (E) Shrug the shoulders upward (F) Relax and repeat.

## Objective

To improve forward head position

## EXERCISE - XI

Starting position: Seated, reclining, back of head resting on stool. Lift hips from floor – with the use of hands if necessary. Sustain the weight between heels and head for four seconds. Lower hips to floor and rest for eight seconds. Repeat.

### Common Faults

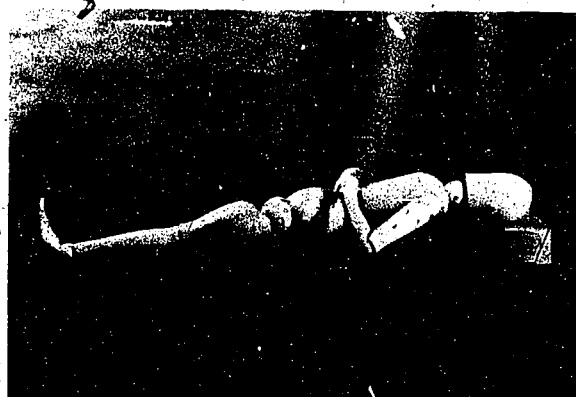
- Back arched
- Overstrain – this exercise is most strenuous and should be carefully supervised.

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POSITION 1



POSITION 2



**SECTION THREE**  
**DEVIATIONS OF DORSAL AND LUMBAR REGIONS OF THE SPINE**

## DEVIATIONS OF THE DORSAL AND LUMBAR REGIONS OF THE SPINE AND EXERCISES FOR CORRECTION

A brief description and common causes of postural defects in the dorsal and lumbar region.

- **ROUND UPPER BACK** is a relaxation or flexion of the spine in the thoracic region, with a resultant rounding of the upper back. The physician calls this dorsal kyphosis, in other words a change in the normal curve in a backward direction.

See Figure Below:



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This condition is the typical result of fatigue, malnutrition or poor muscle tone. Tall girls who are conscious of their height and slump down to be less noticeable sometimes develop this condition.

- **HOLLOW - BACK** is an exaggerated curve in the lower back in a forward direction (lordosis). As a result of this condition the pelvis is usually tilted forward and downward. Abdominal muscles are weakened and stretched, and in compensation the upper body is shifted backward.

See Figure Below:





Hollow back may be either flexible or stiff. The person who habitually stands with his back hollowed and his pelvic tilt increased, but can easily remove the hollow and achieve a good mechanical position, shows what is called a flexible hollow back. He can stand well but does not. The person who cannot by himself or under the teacher's attempt at manual correction, assume desirable alignment, shows what is called stiff hollow back. He can not stand well. This can be discovered if the teacher will use the following flexibility test:

The ability to flatten the waistline to the floor when lying in a relaxed position (or almost so) while extending the legs.

In round hollow back there appears to be a combination of round upper back and hollow back. The upper and lower curves are about equal. The factors causing both kyphosis and lordosis may be present, or the position may be due to the effort to keep the trunk in good balance when one fault already exists.

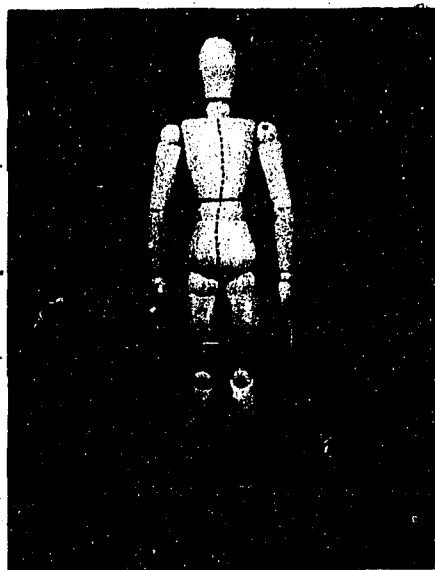
See Figure Below:



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Scoliosis is a lateral curvature of the spine. If the lateral curvature disappears when gravity is no longer influencing the posture, as in lying or when suspended by the hands, it is considered postural or functional and may be corrected. When lateral deviation has existed for a long period of time, structural changes take place in the segments of the spine. The curve will then not disappear on hanging or lying. Severe cases should be referred to a doctor. General causes for faulty spinal alignment are the same as those included in the Cervical Region in Section One.

See Figure Below:



## REMEDIAL EXERCISES FOR DEVIATIONS OF THE DORSAL AND LUMBAR REGIONS

### Objectives

- To remove cause of round upper neck
- To increase flexibility
- To improve upper spinal alignment

### EXERCISE I

Starting position: Sit correctly on a bench with the back and the head against a wall, hands in the lap. The teacher places a ruler on the top of the pupil's head at a right angle to the wall, and places a chalk mark on the wall indicating his usual height.

The pupil extends his spine to its maximum length. The teacher then places a second chalk mark on the wall. A record can be kept of the distance between the two markings.

#### Common Faults

- Incorrect sitting position
- Failure to repeat after other exercises are given

### Objectives

- To strengthen the shoulder retractor muscles
- To encourage the pupil to maintain good body alignment

### EXERCISE II

Starting position: Sit correctly on a bench with the back against a wall; head, shoulders, and buttocks touching the wall; feet parallel and on the floor.

Extend arms overhead against the wall, back of hands against the wall. Bend elbows and move arms downward along wall until hands are opposite head with elbows shoulder high. Hold position for several seconds. Extend arms. Repeat slowly for several times.

#### Common Faults

- Head thrust forward
- Arching the lumbar spine
- Buttocks sliding from the wall

### Objectives

Same as for Exercise I

### EXERCISE III

Starting position: Correct sitting position on floor, feet pulled toward body. Teacher stands behind pupil with outside of right leg against spine. Grasp front of pupil's elbows.

Teacher slowly pulls pupils elbows upward and backward as pupil assists by contracting the shoulder retractor muscles. Relax. Repeat slowly several times.

#### Common Faults

- Forward shifting of head
- Failure to relax
- Loss of correct sitting position

## Objectives

Spinal alignment  
Shoulder flexibility  
Abdominal strengthening

## EXERCISE IV

Starting position: Hang on high bar or stall bars. Knees tucked up to chest. Count seconds of endurance for the hang. Rest. Repeat for continued endurance. Knees may be raised and lowered to limit of endurance.

### Common Faults

- Hands too close together
- Knees not bent up to full height

## Objectives

To improve round upper back and shoulders

## EXERCISE V

Starting position: Lying on back, elbows sideward shoulder high, knees bent and feet on floor. Push with elbows against floor until shoulder blades are raised from floor 1 to 2 inches. Relax. Repeat.

### Common Faults

- Pushing with head or hollow lower back
- Arms not sideward shoulders height
- Waistline not contacting floor

## Objectives

General conditioning  
To improve lumbar Kyphosis and flexible lordosis

## EXERCISE VI

Starting position: Prone lying on plinth. Slide over end of plinth until trunk is hanging downward at right angle to the floor. Feet and legs must be held in support. Hands clasped behind back.

Extend clasped hands forcefully close to body as trunk is raised to horizontal position. Relax. Repeat.

### Common Faults

- Body not hanging from hip joint
- Body raised higher than horizontal

## Objectives

To eliminate lumbar curve  
To improve contraction in abdominal muscles

## EXERCISE VII

Starting position: Standing, trunk hanging toward toes. Grasp legs above ankles, knees slightly bent. Walk ten steps forward without using knee action. Stand. Relax. Repeat moving backward.

### Common Faults

- Not moving forward from hips
- Head and spine out of alignment

## Objectives

- To stretch pectorals
- To improve entire spine alignment, including mild scoliosis

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## Objectives

- To balance lateral motion of spine
- To strengthen oblique muscles of rib cage and abdomen
- To increase flexibility in pelvic girdle

## EXERCISE VIII

Starting position: Stand on stall bars, soles of feet 3 rungs up from bottom. Hands grasp bar at shoulder level.

Bend knees and squat down as far as possible, return to standing position. Repeat 3 or 4 times, hands grasping a lower bar each time. With the last squat, knees should be touching chest. Stand. Step off. Relax.

### Common Faults

- Lack of full downward extension on squat position
- Failure to keep head in correct position
- Standing on arches of feet

## EXERCISE IX

Starting position: Stand with side toward stall bars. Swing near leg sideward to rest on bar at comfortable height.

Stretch, arms above head

Twist toward bars

Bend, attempting to touch elevated heel with opposite hand

Repeat the three movements one at a time, stretching up, twisting away and bending toward heel on floor. Repeat exercise to both sides three times or more. Rest. Reverse standing position and elevated leg. Repeat same number of times as for opposite leg.

### Common Faults

- Foot on floor not directly opposite elevated foot
- Not relaxed during entire exercise
- Failure to take full stretching position at all times



## Objectives

Reduce lumbar lordosis  
Good spinal alignment  
To teach correct pelvic position

## EXERCISE X

Starting position: Lie on floor, entire spine touching, knees bent on floor. Hands behind neck. Elbows held down.

Pull knees to chest. Lower to one side, as close to opposite elbow as possible. Rest. Pull knees over to opposite side. Rest. Return knees to position over chest. Replace feet to floor. Rest. Repeat.

### Common Faults

- Waistline not touching floor
- Knees not close to chest
- Performing exercises too rapidly
- Failure to rest between positions

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## Objectives

To correct a total "C" curve left, for cases of uncomplicated functional scoliosis  
To stretch on the side of the concavity and shorten and strengthen muscles on the side of the convexity

## EXERCISE XI

Starting position: Prone lying, right arm upward, left arm at side.

Move right arm in an arch overhead, press down with left hand and slide left hip up. The effect is a reversal of the curve with both stretching and strengthening taking place where needed. Relax. Repeat.

Reverse exercise for total "C" curve right.

### Common Faults

- Arching in lower back
- Lack of forceful stretching, lateral trunk movement

## EXERCISE XII

Starting position: Kneeling on right knee, extend left leg side-ward. Right arm is over head, left hand pressed against ribs, fingers to rear.

Lateral trunk flexion to left, while the left hand presses against ribs.

Reverse exercise for total "C" curve right.

### Common Faults

- Same as for exercise XI



ADAM'S POSITION



The spine is straight

There is a lateral curvature

The Adam's Position is used when screening pupils for scoliosis.

The curve will tend to disappear in the Adam's Position if no structural changes have taken place.

### Objectives

To reduce kyphosis  
Improve spinal alignment

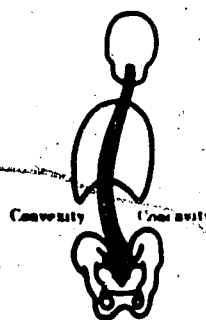
### EXERCISE XIII

Hanging from horizontal or stall bars

1. Passive hanging to stretch pectorals and lumbar spine.
2. Active hanging (muscle contracted to hold body weight.)  
Good for shoulder girdle and spine extensors.
3. Hanging position, back is against upright between section of stall bars, rolled towel or pad between shoulder blades at point of kyphosis.  
Corrective action increased by pressing subject's hips against wall.

Note: This is an effective form of traction. Upward bending of knees, while hanging, is an abdominal strengthener as well as a spinal straightener.

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C-CURVE  
Left Total



S-CURVE  
Left Thoracic - Right Lumbar

**SECTION FOUR**  
**DEVIATIONS OF THE LEGS AND FEET**

## DEVIATIONS OF LEGS AND FEET AND BASIC EXERCISES FOR CORRECTION

A brief description and common causes of leg and feet defects.

- The normal foot is fan-shaped, showing a relatively straight line from the center of the heel to a point on the inner side of the great toe. The arches of the feet are dome shaped in appearance. They are:

(The longitudinal arch, extending along the under portion of the entire foot, from heel to toe. The greater elevation toward the inside of foot.

The transverse arch, extending from side to side at base of first toe to fifth toe.

- The arch on the inner side of the foot is concave, and on the outer side of the foot is slightly convex. All the toes lie parallel to each other.
- The weight-bearing points in the structure of the foot are carried from the heel through the outer edges of the foot to the ball of the foot. The entire foot is an elastic structure. It articulates with the bones of the leg through the heel.

See Figures Below:

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### • Common Causes of Foot Defects

Incorrect shoes or stockings  
Lack of muscle tone  
Over weight  
Prolonged standing  
Malnutrition  
Foot injury



## REMEDIAL EXERCISES FOR DEVIATIONS OF THE LEGS AND FEET

### Objectives

- To observe the feel of correct position
- To increase suppleness of foot and leg muscles
- To teach correct position of feet while standing and walking

### EXERCISE I

Starting position: Stand before mirror. Feet parallel, few inches apart. Toward mirror walk away and practice correct foot and leg alignment, as well as good posture of the entire body.

Walk approximately 30 feet or more with the heels raised and the toes turned inward. Return.

Walk on the outer borders of the feet for a distance of 30 feet or more and return.

Walk on the toes with heels raised for a distance of 30 feet or more and return.

Walk on the heels with toes raised for a distance of 30 feet or more and return.

Walk a distance of 30 feet or more with toes turned inward and flexed, and return.

Correct walking with the heels slightly striking the floor first.

Walking on the "tilting foot rail."

#### Common Faults

- Toeing in or out of feet
- Faulty walking gait
- Faulty posture
- Hurrying through exercise

### Objectives

Same as for Exercise I

### Exercise II

Starting position: Correct sitting position on a bench with the right foot crossed over the left knee. Hold right heel firmly with right hand.

Keeping right heel fixed, circle forepart of foot downward, inward, and upward vigorously. Repeat several times. Repeat with left foot.

#### Common Faults

- Circling from the ankle joint
- Circling too rapidly

### Objectives

Same as for Exercise I.

### EXERCISE III

Starting position: Correct sitting position on bench, feet parallel and a few inches apart; hands in lap to prevent their assisting during the exercise.

Cross feet, keeping outer borders in contact with floor – one. Stand, keeping feet crossed and weight on outer borders – two. Return to sitting position – three. Repeat slowly several times. Walk forward and backward with feet crossed, weight on outside of each foot.

#### Common Faults

- Same as for Exercise I

### Objectives

Same as for Exercise I.

### EXERCISE IV

Starting position: Correct sitting position on a bench, feet parallel and a few inches apart. Extend legs, placing both feet forward.

Cross right foot over left at ankle; curl toes and dorsi-flex feet. (Draw toes toward shin). Return. Repeat forcefully several times.

#### Common Faults

- Same as for Exercise I

### Objectives

Same as for Exercise I.

### EXERCISE V

Starting position: Correct standing position with feet parallel and a few inches apart.

Flex the toes vigorously while raising the inner borders of the feet and rolling the weight to the outer borders. Hold the contracted position for several seconds. Relax. Repeat several times.

#### Common Faults

- Same as for Exercise I

### Objectives

Same as for Exercise I.

### EXERCISE VI

Starting position: Correct standing position with feet parallel and a few inches apart. Raise heels from floor – one; roll weight to outer borders of feet – two; roll weight back to heels – three; hold – four. The movements from one to four are continuous. Repeat, slowly, several times.

#### Common Faults

- Same as for Exercise I

### Objectives

Same as for Exercise I  
To offer resistance  
To strengthen and flex toes

### EXERCISE VII

Starting position: Correct sitting position on a bench with a large turkish towel spread lengthwise before the feet; the toes and forepart of the feet are on the near edge of the towel; feet are a few inches apart and the toes turned inward.

Keeping the heels stationary, flex the toes while gripping the towel with the toes and the outer borders of the feet and drawing the feet inward and upward (supination). Continue the exercise until enough of the towel has been drawn under the feet to make a small heap. Spread the towel and repeat the exercise several times slowly.

Note: A light weight should be placed on the far end of the towel as the muscles become strengthened.

#### Common Faults

- Using whole foot instead of toes to gather towel

### Objectives

Strengthen ankle and foot arches  
To strengthen muscles which move foot in all directions

### EXERCISE VIII

Starting position: Sitting on bench, marble grasped between toes of one foot.

Cross knees and deposit marble in container, near and at bench height. Relax. Use other foot.

#### Common Faults

- Poor sitting position

### Objectives

Same as for Exercise I and VIII

### EXERCISE IX

Starting position: Correct sitting position on bench. Paper on floor at feet, Pencil between toes.

Write name on paper. Alternate feet.

### Objectives

Same as for Exercise I and VIII

### EXERCISE X

Starting position: Hanging, suspended by hands and feet from horizontal ladder. Separation of 3 or 4 rungs between hands and feet. (1) Count seconds for endurance of hang. (2) Progress along ladder by moving opposite hand and foot. Note progress.

## POINTS TO REMEMBER

- When standing or walking toe straight ahead, gently shifting the body weight from heels toward the balls of the feet.

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- Keep the head up, chin down, chest up, abdomen in.



- Sit with the buttocks "tucked under" so that the hollow in the low back tends to flatten.



- When possible, elevate the knees higher than the hips while sitting.



- Sleep on your back with knees propped up, or on your side with one or both knees drawn up. Bed should be firm.



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- Bend knees and use legs when lifting a weight. Keep back straight.



- Do not bend forward with knees straight. Always "squat."



- Learn to live 24 hours a day without a hollow in the lower part of your back.

## GLOSSARY

### ABDUCTION

A movement away from the trunk axis, or the movement away from the mid-line of a body part.

### ADAM'S POSITION

The body is bent forward at the hip joints, feet together, arms relaxed and hanging in front of body. The position is used to determine structural scoliosis.

### ADDUCTION

The act of moving a body part toward the body axis. If reference is to the toes or fingers, the movement is toward the mid-line of the foot or hand respectively.

### ANKYLOSIS

Extreme stiffness of a joint.

### ANTAGONIST

A muscle which acts in opposition to the action of another muscle.

### ANTERIOR

Situated in front of or in the forward part.

### ANTI-GRAVITY MUSCLES

Muscles (predominantly extensors) which act to maintain the body in an upright position against the force of gravity.

### ATROPHY

A wasting away of the tissues of a part or of the entire body.

### BARREL CHEST

The thorax is rounded.

### BILATERAL

Pertains to both sides; having two sides.

### CAVUS

A type of clubfoot.

### COCCYX

The small bone at the end of the spine.

### COMPRESSION

The act of pressing together.

### CONTRACTURE

A shortening or distortion.

### DISTAL

Away from point of attachment or origin; opposed to proximal.

### DORSAL

Pertains to the back or to any dorsum.

### DORSIFLEXION

The act of bending a part backward. When the toes are bent toward the face, they are in dorsiflexion.

### DORSUM

The back. The upper or posterior surface, or the back, of any part.

### DYSPNEA

Difficult breathing.

### EPIPHYSIS

A growing portion of bone separated from the main portion in early life by cartilage, but later becoming part of the larger bone.

### EQUINUS

A deformity of the foot in which the individual walks on the toes or the anterior part of one or both feet.

### EVERSION

A movement which brings about a twisting or turning outward of the part. The plantar surface of the foot is turned out in eversion of the foot.

**EXTENSION**

A movement which brings about an increase at the joint angle; a movement which brings the parts of a limb into or toward a straight line.

**EXTENSOR**

A muscle which serves to extend or straighten a limb or part.

**FASCIA**

A sheet or band of tissue which encloses and connects the muscles.

**FIXATION**

The act or operation of holding or fastening in a fixed position.

**FIXATION MUSCLES**

Provide a firm anchorage support to the origin or insertion points of attachment or immobilize a specific joint or joints.

**FLACCID**

Lack of tone or tension in a muscle.

**FLEXION**

The act of bending or condition of being bent.

**FLEXOR**

A muscle that flexes or bends a joint.

**FUNNEL CHEST**

A chest in which there is funnel-shaped depression in the middle of the anterior thoracic wall, the deepest part being in the sternum.

**GASTROCNEMIUS**

The calf muscle which extends the foot at the ankle and flexes the leg.

**GENU RECURVATUM**

A backward curvature of the knee joint.

**GENU VALGUM**

A deformity in which the knees are abnormally close together (knock knees).

**GENU VARUM**

A condition in which the knees are abnormally separated (bowlegs).

**GLUTEAL**

Pertaining to the muscles forming the buttocks.

**HAMSTRING**

A tendon of the thigh, back of the knee.

**HIP JOINT**

The articulation of the innominate bone and the femur.

**HYPEREXTENSION**

Extreme or excessive extension; extension beyond straight alignment.

**HYPERTROPHY**

Abnormal overgrowth.

**ILIAC CREST**

The top ridge of the ilium. There are two prominent processes at the ends of the crest, the one in front being the anterior superior spine, and the one in back being the posterior superior spine.

**ILIOFEMORAL LIGAMENT**

A part of the capsule of the hip joint, extending diagonally across the hip joint anteriorly from the ilium to the head of the femur.

**ILIOPSOAS**

The psoas major and iliacus muscles are often referred to as one, the iliopsoas. They flex the trunk on the thigh or the thigh on the trunk.

**ILIUM**

One of the bones making up the pelvic girdle; the upper portion of the innominate bone.

## JOINT

An articulation. A joint is formed by the meeting of 2 or more bones of the skeleton. The articulation at the ankle involves the tibia, fibula, and talus.

## KYPHOSIS

An increased posterior curve of the spine which is usually found in the dorsal spine, but which may be present in the lumbar spine.

## LATERAL

Is away from the mid-point and toward the outside of the part discussed.

## LIGAMENT

Connective tissue tying bones together.

## LORDOSIS

An increased anterior curve of the spine, usually found in the lumbar region.

## MALLEOLUS

A rounded process on either side of the ankle.

## MEDIAL

Pertains to the middle, nearer the median plane.

## MEDIAN PLANE

The plane dividing the body longitudinally into symmetrical halves.

## METATARSUS

The part of the foot between the tarsus and the toes.

## MOBILIZE

To move.

## OCCIPITAL

Relative to the back of the head.

## OCCIPUT

The back part of the head.

## OS CALCIS

The calcaneus or heel bone.

## OSTEOCHONDRITIS

Inflammation of a bone and its cartilage.

## OSTEOCHONDROSIS

A disease of one or more of the growth or ossification centers.

## OSTEOGENESIS IMPERFECTA

A congenital disease marked by fragility of the bones.

## OSTEOMYELITIS

Inflammation of the bone.

## PELVIC TILT

In a forward (anterior) tilt of the pelvis, there is an increased inclination with the symphysis pubis rotated downward. In a backward (posterior) pelvic tilt, there is a decreased inclination with the symphysis pubis rotated upward.

## PELVIS

The basin-shaped ring of bone at the base of the trunk, supporting the spinal column and resting upon the lower extremities. It is composed of the two innominate bones at the side and in front, and the sacrum and coccyx behind.

## PIGEON CHEST

A condition of the chest in which the sternum is prominent. It often results from rickets.

## PLANTAR

Pertains to the sole of the foot.

## PLANTAR FLEXION

The forepart of the foot moves away from the tibia as the ankle is extended.



POTT'S DISEASE	Tuberculosis of the spine.
PRIME MOVERS	Muscles which produce the action.
PROMINENCE	A projection.
PRONATION (foot)	A position of the feet in which most of the body weight is borne on the inner borders of the feet; the ankle falls inward and the forepart of the foot is everted and abducted.
PROXIMAL	Nearest to the center or origin; opposed to distal.
PTOSIS	Prolapse of an organ or part.
ROUND SHOULDERS	A condition of the shoulder girdle in which the scapulae are abducted.
SCAPHOID (navicular)	A bone on the inner side of the tarsus; a tarsal bone in front of the astragalus and behind the cuneiform bone.
SCAPULA	The shoulder blade.
SCOLIOSIS	Abnormal lateral curvature of the vertebral column.
SPINA BIFIDA	A congenital cleft of the vertebral column.
SPRENGLE'S DEFORMITY	Congenital upward placement of the shoulder girdle.
STATIC MUSCLE WORK	The length of the muscle remains the same throughout the contraction. It occurs when a muscle or group of muscles works to hold a given position.
STRETCH REFLEX	A sudden stretch or jerk on a muscle may cause it to contract.
SUBTALOID JOINT	The subastragaloid joint. The articulation between the talus and the os calcis.
SUPINATION	Turning upward.
SUPINE	Lying on the back.
SUSTENTACULUM TALII	A shelf-like bone projecting out from the inner side of the os calcis (calcaneus), on which part of the talus (astragalus) lies.
SYNERGETIC MUSCLES	Muscles which guide the prime movers in performing a movement.
TALIPES CALCANEUS	The foot is tipped up in front and the body weight is carried on the heel.
TALIPES CAVIUS	A deformity of the foot in which the plantar arch of the foot is exaggerated due to contraction of the plantar fascia.
TALIPES EQUINUS	A foot deformity in which the person walks on the toes or forefoot. It is due to elevation of the heel by contraction of the Achilles tendon.

**TALIPES PLANOVALGUS**

Valgus combined with flattening of the plantar arch and of the instep.

**TALIPES PLANUS**

Flatfoot or splay foot.

**TALIPES VALGUS**

The individual walks on the inner border of the foot, the sole being turned outward.

**TALIPES VARUS**

The individual walks on the outer border of the foot, the sole being turned inward. The condition may be due to contracture of the *tibialis anterior* and posterior muscles or loss of the *peroneus longus*.

**TALUS**

The astragalus or ankle bone.

**TARSUS**

The instep proper with its 7 bones.

**TENDON**

The fibrous cord of connective tissue by which a muscle attaches to a bone.

**THORACIC**

The dorsal region of the spine.

**TIBIAL TORSION**

A twisting of the tibia.

**TONUS**

A state of partial contraction in a muscle.

**TORTICOLLIS**

Wryneck; a contracted state of the cervical muscles producing twisting of the neck and an unnatural position of the head.

**TUBERCLE**

A rough, rounded eminence on a bone.

**TUBEROSITY**

A protuberance on a bone.

**WINGED SCAPULA**

A deformity due to paralysis or weakness of the *serratus anterior* muscle. The middle and lower *trapezius* muscles may also be weak.

**WOLFF'S LAW OF BONE GROWTH**

Bone changes its internal architecture and external shape according to the way in which the weight is borne or the stress applied.

**WRYNECK**

Torticollis

**XIPHOID**

The cartilaginous process, shaped like a sword-tip, forming the lower extremity of the sternum.

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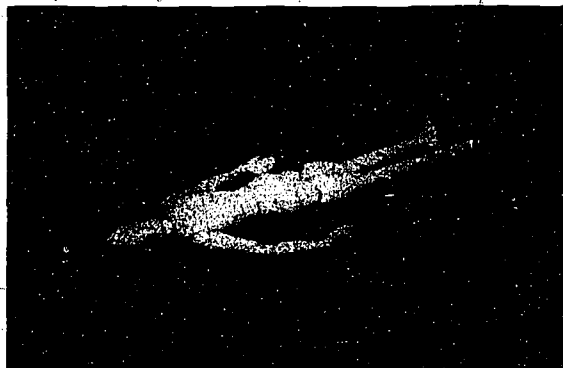
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